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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KPKO](#) [MARR](#) [MASS](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: GPOI DEMARCHE DELIVERED -- GVN STILL CONSIDERING EVENTUAL
DEPLOYMENT

REF: STATE 166599

11. (SBU) On December 20, poloff discussed reftel points with MFA IO Department UN Section Chief Nguyen Thi Van Anh and Specialist Nguyen Vu Minh and also handed over a diplomatic note containing the points. Van Anh and Minh were quick to emphasize that the GVN is still considering and preparing for participation in peace support operations (PSO). Necessary next steps by the GVN will include new legislation that would authorize participation by GVN forces in PSOs and a public awareness campaign to explain and create acceptance for sending GVN forces outside Vietnam. According to Minh, there is no timetable for these actions.

12. (SBU) Van Anh and Minh explained that the PSO issue is being considered by an interagency working group consisting of representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defense, Public Security, Justice and Finance, with the MFA taking the lead. This working-level group provides input for consideration by GVN leadership. The GVN has participated in PSO capacity building activities with Australia and Japan. Minh noted that the GVN has sent only civilians to attend these training events, while other countries typically sent military personnel. Van Anh said the GPOI invitation would be shared with the interagency group and that the Embassy would be informed of the GVN decision. Post will follow up regularly and seek additional opportunities to discuss GPOI with GVN decision-makers.

MICHALAK